



Agawam

Independent

Vol. 8. No. 17.

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AGAWAM, MASS.: THURSDAY, AUGUST 5, 1965

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way back when . . .

THE BLACKSMITH SHOP



By Edith LaFrancis

In the horse and buggy days, blacksmith shops were as necessary as garages are today. Equipment for traveling had to be kept in good shape.

The above picture, taken in 1901, is of a shop which stood on the corner of South Westfield Street and Shoemaker Lane where the auto salesroom is now located. C. W. Twist's sign advertises horse shoeing, general jobbing and carriage painting. He was also agent for Deering Farm Machinery. He repaired farm implements and probably sold harness. This shop was later run by Houghton.

Many blacksmith shops in the old days were handy places to tack up ads and thus were decorated with placards announcing the merits of such items as Sloan's Liniment, Dr. Daniels Cough Syrup, Magic Yeast, Seigel's Syrup for cure of Dyspepsia and Indigestion.

Among other blacksmith shops in Agawam was one on Main Street south of the Post Office and owned by Jerre Adams, a farmer who lived nearby.

Below Harvey Porter's saw mill on the west side of Main Street was a shop run by George Newton. The last shop in town was on Main Street at the corner of Bailey and Main Streets and owned by Arthur and Clarence Bailey.

On the south side of Springfield Street at Feeding Hills was a shop owned by Bert Slater about whom oldtimers tell the following story:—On a cold windy day in the winter of '97 a surveyor for the Central New England Railroad entered the building, which had wide doors on both sides so that it faced north or south depending on the time of year. The man requested the privilege of opening both doors at once while he ran a line through the building for the new railroad. The wind being in the north and a cold day, Mr. Slater refused and told him to come along some warm day in the Spring. The line was "offset" around the building and the surveyor continued on. A short time later, Mr. Slater was served with a writ of eminent domain and soon was looking for another location.

W. S. Co-operative Bank Declares Record Dividend

Directors of the West Springfield Co-operative Bank Monday voted a dividend of \$162,992 for the quarter ended July 14, and Earle C. Harvey, treasurer and executive officer, said this is the largest amount paid by the bank in any single quarter during its

68 years. The dividend is payable August 11.

Mr. Harvey said that income of the West Springfield Co-operative Bank for the quarter ended July 14 was \$232,497, also a record figure. The dividend declared by the directors Monday represents approximately 70 percent of the bank's income for the quarter.

Mr. Harvey told the directors that total earnings for the past 12 months were a record \$892,609, and that the record high dividend payout for the year amounts to \$636,627, also an all-time high representing 71 percent of the earnings. West Springfield Co-operative Bank pays dividends four times a year.

The directors voted to continue the present dividend scale: 4½ percent on serial shares, 4¼ percent on investment accounts and 4 percent on savings accounts. Mr. Harvey described the serial shares dividend of 4½ percent as "higher return for those who carry out a regular, systematic program of savings."

The bank's total assets on July 14 had reached the record figure of \$18,354,619, an increase of \$1,191,594 over the same date a year ago.

The gain in savings during the past 12 months was \$1.1 million,

for a total of \$16,033,557, also a record.

Mr. Harvey said savings and mortgage loan activity "remains at a good pace, and we are confident of another good year for the bank."

Senator Hammond Approves Water Resources Study

State Senator George D. Hammond of Westfield said today he is in complete accord with the proposal of Water Resources Chairman Charles H. W. Foster for a multimillion dollar state-federal water study.

"Water is fast becoming a long-range problem that should receive some long-range attention," the Hampden-Berkshire District legislator said. "Mr. Foster's commission reports that it has found a growing number of water shortages, and is advising proper planning to avoid them in the future."

Senator Hammond said Massachusetts communities "must not always wait until drought conditions have erupted before taking action. We should instead develop practical programs for these communities needing them which will develop larger supplies and thus compensate for periods of minimal rainfall."

Aside from the drought, Senator Hammond said, residential, business and industrial expansion

is accounting for increased water use, and these growth factors must also be taken into consideration if we are to have an adequate supply of water even in periods of normal rainfall.

"Here in the green northeast," he said, "we are inclined to take pure, cold water for granted, as compared with some other areas of the nation where the shortage of water is a very real thing. Water is a valuable natural resource and we must plan its use so that it will remain an abundant resource in the years ahead."

The Westfield Senator described Commissioner Foster's program as "something we just can't afford to miss, and I for one will give his proposal my enthusiastic support in the Massachusetts Senate."

Camp Mill Brook Presents Awards

Camp Mill Brook completed its second two-week encampment last Friday with an award ceremony that followed an overnight. The overnight was attended by those campers who were nine years or older or planning to enter the fourth grade.

The Sioux tribe led by counselors Judy Moore and Jane Gallerani were cited as the outstanding group in camp during the ten-day period. Susan Brown was selected as the sole recipient of the award of Merit presented for all-around excellence. Diane Davis and Bill Ferguson received good sportsmanship badges while Sheryl Davis, Bob Mercadante, and Debbie Neis were announced as proficient in the Arts and Crafts program. Mike DiMauro and Rich Neis received archery awards and Gary Robinson received the only athletic award.

Miss Arlene Sikora announced the following swimming awards: Tadpole: Celeste Gallucci, Melissa Burr, Diane Danaher, Julie Rackliffe, Sherry Campbell, Rolf Hofgard, James Lowell, Tom Tatro, Scot Letendre.

Frog: Kathy Marquis, Louis Gatti, Jeff Brusig, Mke Morrisset, Tom Fergues, Chris Hebert, Bob Muellor, Donna Annone, Mary Hebert, Bill Lindsay, John Augustynowicz, Kane Smith.

Minnow: Diane Skowera, Susan Brown, Theresa Molleur, Gary Woods, Richard LeClair, Kim Smith, John Cardone, Jeff Carmody, Lori Letendre, Steven Bonacker, Marshall Prior, Ginger Burr, Nancy George.

Fish: Eddie Clampit, Bill Lowell Joe Shaer, Linda Bailey, Penny Balsewicz.

Flying Fish: Wendell Prior, Mike DiMauro, Cathy Keefe, Cathy Shaer, Skip Fischer, Donna Keefe, Candy Gallucci.

Shark: Gary Robinson.

There are still openings for the fourth and final period beginning Aug. 16. Registration information may be obtained by calling or visiting the YMCA office on Perry Lane.

The Bookworm Club



The children in the picture are attending a meeting of The Bookworm Club, the summer reading program at the Agawam Libraries. A weekly meeting is held at each library to talk about the books they have read. A total of about 100 children are members.

Pequot Beverages

• DELIVERIES DAILY •

— Call Today —

RE 2-3333

CHURCH NEWS

BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Benjamin Lockhart, Pastor
Mrs. Frank Merchant, Organist
and Choir Director
Mrs. Barbara Briggs, Church Secretary

Sunday—9:30 a.m. Union Services will be held in the Agawam Congregational Church with Rev. Benjamin T. Lockhart preaching.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Rev. Floyd C. Bryan, Minister
Mrs. Andrew G. Toussaint, Minister of Music

Sunday—9:30 a.m. Services at church with Rev. Benjamin T. Lockhart preaching.

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA CHURCH

Rev. Dominic A. Ruscetta, CPS Rector.
Rev. James T. Cunningham, CPS, Assistant.

Saturday—4:53:30 p.m. and 7:30 and 8:30 p.m. confessions.

Mass Schedule
Sundays: 7, 8:30, 10:30 a.m.
Weekdays: 7 a.m.
Tuesday—7:30 p.m. St. Anthony Devotions.

ST. DAVID'S CHURCH

Rev. John S. Tyler, Vicar
Sunday—8 a.m. and 10 a.m.—Worship Services.

BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH

Upper Church—Second Sts.
West Springfield, Mass.
Pastor John N. Garner
Friday—6 p.m. Softball practice at Mittleague Park.

LEGAL NOTICES

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
HAMPDEN ss PROBATE COURT
To all persons interested in the estate of JOHN M. HIGGINS of Agawam, in said County, a person under conservatorship.
The conservator of the property of said JOHN M. HIGGINS has presented to said Court his fourth account for allowance.
If you desire to object thereto you or your attorney should file a written appearance in said Court at Springfield before ten o'clock in the forenoon on the seventeenth day of August 1965, the return day of this citation.
Witness ABRAHAM L. SMITH, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this eighth day of July 1965.
JOHN J. LYONS, Register.
(July 22-29, Aug. 5)

Sunday—9:45 a.m. Bible School for all ages; 11 a.m. Morning worship service with a Gospel Message by Pastor Garner. There is a supervised nursery service available during both Bible School and morning service, upstairs in the church; 6 p. m. Young People's groups meet at church; 7 p.m. Evening service conducted by Pastor Garner.

Wednesday 7:30 p.m. "Hour of Power," midweek prayer meeting and service conducted by Pastor Garner.

Telephone pre-registration for Aug. 9-13 Daily Vacation Bible School at Bible Baptist Church, West Springfield, will be held Thursday and Friday, Aug. 5-6.

Rev. John N. Garner, pastor and school director, announced that interested persons should call him or Mrs. Garner at the church or parsonage between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Thursday or Friday. Late registration will be held at the opening session on Monday, Aug. 9.

Transportation to and from classes may be arranged by contacting Rev. Mr. Garner.

Sessions will be held Monday through Friday from 9:30 a. m. to noon. Classes, free of charge and conducted by experienced teachers, will include Bible study, Scripture memorization, missionary field presentations, handcraft and recreation. Refreshments will be served during each daily session.

Theme of the school is "Discovering with Christ," in keeping with youth's quest for spiritual knowledge in the space age. Topics to be covered by each department include: Beginners, "God's Friends, David and Paul"; primary, "New Testament People," and juniors, "Jesus Christ, My Savior."

Poster Winners

Winners of the poster contest held in conjunction with the school were: most attractive poster, Nancy Brown; most original, Glen McAdam; best illustrating school theme, Donald Merriman and Allison Carduff. Also submitting posters for judging were: John McAdam, Kathy Carduff and Martha Sheldon. Contest judges were Rev. Garner, Arthur H. Bowlen and W. F. Hunter.

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Saucy Shrimp



There was a time when we could enjoy the succulence of fresh shrimp only if we were by the Gulf shores. Now, thanks to up-to-date processing and distribution methods, they're sold fresh or frozen just about everywhere, at any season. So, serve a tempting platter of deep-fried shrimp soon.

This recipe for French Fried Shrimp capitalizes on their distinctive flavor. It features a novel batter of pancake mix and cornmeal, the wee nubbins of cornmeal providing subtle texture interest in the thin, crisp coating. For this aristocrat of the deep, there's no more fitting accompaniment than Dill Sauce Aristocrat. The refreshing quality of dill is a great complement to fish and seafood; it's heightened here by the lilting flavor of the mayonnaise and sour cream plus additional sprightly seasonings.

French Fried Shrimp

1 cup pancake mix
¼ cup cornmeal
Dash of salt
1 cup milk

2 pounds cooked, cleaned shrimp
Kraft Oil

Combine pancake mix, cornmeal and dash of salt. Gradually blend in milk. Dip shrimp into batter. Fry in deep hot oil, 375°, until golden brown, about 3 minutes. Serve hot with Dill Sauce Aristocrat. Makes 6 servings.

Dill Sauce Aristocrat

1 cup Kraft Mayonnaise
1 cup dairy sour cream
¼ cup chopped dill pickle
¼ cup sliced green onion

½ teaspoon dry mustard
½ teaspoon basil
½ teaspoon salt
Dash of cayenne

Blend ingredients; heat. Serve hot.

TAFFY — NO SALT WATER!

Atlantic City
Salt water taffy isn't made out of salt water!

Startling? It is to thousands of tourists who have strolled up and down Atlantic City's famed Boardwalk for 80-plus years.

You see, salt water taffy just "happened." And it happened right on the Boardwalk. It was all the fault of a big wave in the Atlantic Ocean. At least this is the story that the people at James' Candy Company tell. And the largest manufacturer of salt water taffy in the world should know.

The tale of how salt water taffy "happened" has become leg-

endary to Atlantic City residents, and almost any one of them can tell it. But it takes the atmosphere of the huge copper kettles and the aroma of peppermint and peanut butter in the James' taffy kitchens to bring the story to life.

Giant arms pull a pale green spearmint mass to creamy chewiness. Cutting and wrapping machines neatly chop and tie the rope of molasses mint from the "puller" into "cut to fit the mouth" pieces. And the salt water taffy story really comes alive.

It seems that back in 1883, a young man named David Bradley opened a taffy stand facing the Boardwalk, "just two steps above sand level."

After he had closed his stand one night, the Atlantic spilled a lively mountain of spray over all his "goodies." This didn't make any difference to the customers who were there bright and early the next morning to buy candy—salt water and all.

One little girl, happily chewing on her piece of spray-coated taffy, told her mother, "This is salt water taffy—the man told



Superhighway Driving

Some women are frightened by the thought of freeway or turnpike driving. But, you'll have a safe journey, if you'll follow the rules of the road.

Concentration on your driving is absolutely necessary on freeways, as faster-than-usual traffic adds to your driving responsibilities. Keep alert; be on the lookout for changing conditions; expect the unexpected.

Speed control is important. Freeways are not race tracks and posted limits should be respected and not be exceeded. Check your speed often. On freeways, you can gradually increase your speed to a point far higher than you intend without realizing it.

Because of your higher than usual driving speed, longer stopping distances must be allowed for. For each 10 miles per hour of speed, stay at least 20 feet (a little over 1 car length) back of the car you follow. Or, multiply your speedometer reading by two and stay that many feet behind the car you are following.

In case of a flat tire give a stop signal and pull completely off the road pavement as far as the shoulder permits. At night, use flares or reflector. A Bernz-Omatic tire inflator is the easiest way to seal a flat. This convenient aluminum cylinder will inflate and seal your tire in just 60 seconds and give you 100 miles of continuous travel.

Prepare well in advance when you want to leave the freeway. Watch at least a mile in advance for a sign designating your interchange. Accidents are caused when drivers spot their exits late and then make sudden changes in speed or direction.

Remember, once you're off the freeway you're traveling with considerably slower traffic, so adjust your driving intelligently to the new conditions.

me so." And it's been salt water taffy ever since.

"Salt water taffy even caused a court case," Henry Glaser, executive vice-president of James', said. As he talked, he kept a watchful eye on packers stuffing gaily wrapped bits of 16 "varieties" into boxes to supply the busy tourist trade on the Boardwalk and "taffy chewers" around the globe.

Sweet Corn

Hurry fresh corn from the garden or market to the refrigerator or range. The sooner you use it, the sweeter and juicier the corn. As corn gets older, the kernels get tougher. You may leave corn in the husk until just before you cook it. If you prefer to husk corn before you put it in the refrigerator, wrap it or place it in a moisture-proof container to keep the kernels from drying out.



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Reliable Party for Added Income for Part or Full Time Work—We Secure Locations for Testers.

Male or female, wanted for this area to service route for Sylvania & R.C.A. television and radio tubes sold through our latest modern method free self-service tube testing and merchandising units. Will not interfere with your present employment. To qualify you must have \$1,476.60 to \$2,953.20 cash available immediately for inventory and equipment, investment secured. Car, 5 spare hours weekly, could net up to \$6,000.00 per year in your spare time, should be able to start at once. This company will extend financial assistance to full time if desired. Do not answer unless fully qualified for time and investment. Income should start immediately. Business set up for you. Selling, soliciting, or experience is not necessary. For personal interview in your city—please include your Phone Number and WRITE

U. S. ELECTRONICS CORP.
6267 NATURAL BRIDGE
PINE LAWN 20, MO.

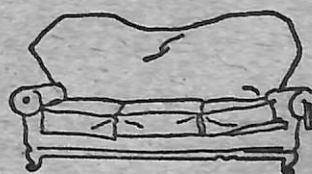
• WANTED •

Articles - Bric-a-Brac - Good Used Jewelry
for WHITE ELEPHANT TABLE
SENIOR CITIZENS HOBBY SHOW

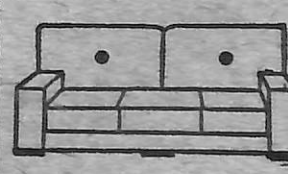
Sept. 11 at Agawam Junior High School

Articles May Be Dropped Off at 70 Valentine St., or 624 Main St. — If Pickup is Desired Call Mrs. Mokszin, 733-7318 or Mrs. Driscoll 732-2264.

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AGAWAM

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Round The Town



By Ann Nael
phone ST 8-8996

Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Crowley of Maple St., Agawam, were visitors recently at Virginia's Famous Skyline Caverns, located on the Stonewall Jackson Memorial Highway, south of "Where the Shenandoah National Park and Skyline Drive Begin" Front Royal, Virginia.

Joseph DellaGiustina of Albert St., and Louis N. Prempas of Shoemaker Lane, Agawam have completed a sixth year of professional training at the University of Connecticut's School of Education. They have studied one year beyond the master's degree level, under the guidance of advisors in the U of C School of Education.

Mr. and Mrs. Urbain LaBarre of Leonard St., Agawam, are receiving congratulations on the birth of their first child, a son, John Francis, born July 28 in the Wesson Maternity Hospital. Maternal grandparent is Mrs. John Sullivan of Leonard St., and paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Urban LaBarre of America St., Chicopee.

Mrs. Walter O'Connor of Warren St., Agawam, has returned from a Toronto, Canada vacation where she was the guest of her brother.

Mrs. Ida Rescia of Walnut St., Agawam, and Mrs. Lydia Rescia of Belmont Ave., Springfield, left Sunday for a two-month tour of Italy, Spain, Portugal and North Africa.

Mrs. William Keogh of Doane Ave., Agawam, will leave today for Plano, Ill., where she will attend the golden wedding anniversary of her aunt and uncle, Rev. and Mrs. Roy E. Simms. The reception will be held at the American Legion Home in Plano and a family dinner will follow at Toll Gate Inn, Aurora, Ill. Rev. Simms, who is retired from the active ministry, is a pastoral counselor for the Presbyterian Church in Aurora.

Sweet Corn

In best quality corn, the husk is a fresh green color with dark brown silk at the end signifying well-filled kernels. The kernels should be tender, milky and sufficiently large to leave no space between the rows. They should be just firm enough to puncture rather easily when slight pressure is applied. Ears generally should be filled to the tip, with no rows of missing kernels. If you see cobs with kernels that are very soft and very small, you can be quite sure that the corn is immature.



The Granger School playground sponsored by the Agawam Parks and Playground Recreation last week held a Bubble Gum Contest and winners are pictured above, left to right: Heather Wills, 1st; Susan Drewnowski, 2nd; Eric Taylor, 3rd.

Printed Pattern



9415 2-10

Printed Pattern 9415: Children's Sizes 2, 4, 6, 8, 10. Size 6 jumper 1 1/2 yards 35-inch nap; blouse 1 1/2 yards 39-inch.

FIFTY CENTS in coins for each pattern — add 15 cents for each pattern for 1st-class mailing and special handling. Send to 170 Newspaper Pattern Dept., 232 West 18th St., New York, N. Y. 10011. Send 50¢ for new Fall-Winter Pattern Catalog. Coupon inside good for One Free Pattern.

August 26, 1920—Sex reared its head constitutionally as the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution, providing for suffrage for woman, was made operative by the Secretary of State.

Just Plain Peanuts!

Boston

Happy birthday to peanut butter!

It's 75 years old this year, but just as young tasting as ever.

And have you had your annual five pounds of it? If not, you're not doing your part on the half of a billion pounds of the sticky favorite that are eaten in this country alone in one year.

We say "sticky" with reservations. That old yarn about peanut butter sticking to the roof of your mouth is fast becoming a tale of the past. Now most peanut butter is homogenized. Which means that you can conduct a decent conversation right in the middle of a peanut butter sandwich!

Of course, if you still want the roof-sticking variety, some companies do make it as a sideline.

Right after peanut butter was discovered in St. Louis in 1890, it caught on like—well, like peanuts! Soon, every grocery store was equipped with a peanut grinder. Peanuts became butter right before customers' eyes. And the tasty results of the grinder, probably still warm, were carried home carefully in a wobbly pasteboard carton.

Mass production soon took over. Grocers ground their peanut butter, but they began grind-

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Nick Longhi

142 Meadow St. Agawam

RE 4-7306
or RE 4-1587

MALONE'S FARM & GARDEN CENTER



"Your One Stop GARDEN CENTER" Shrubs

• NATIVE VEGETABLES • Native Sweet Corn Tomatoes - Squash

All at Reasonable Prices
Peat Moss • Grass Seed
Fertilizers • Rakes
Rollers • Spreaders
• Garden Supplies •

DELIVERY SERVICE —
RE 2-3965
338 SILVER STREET
AGAWAM

ing it a barrelful at a time. When the customer came along and ordered a pound of peanut butter, it was scooped out of the "tub" with a wooden paddle and into the pasteboard carton.

Now gone are the days when you can have peanut butter ground to order. But one thing has stayed the same. Peanut butter is still made of just plain peanuts.

Want a "fragrant" walk? Try a tour of a modern peanut butter factory. Suddenly, you're right back in the country store fishing a cracker out of the cracker barrel and dipping it in the peanut butter tub when the grocer isn't looking!

The aroma of fresh-roasted peanuts is one of those all-American smells, like fresh-baked bread. We say "all-American" because only a few other countries have "taken" to peanut butter. It's been as slow as it is sticky about crossing the ocean.

August 7, 1928—The American dollar bill began to shrink—appearing in a size one-third smaller than bills issued previously by the Treasury.

My Neighbors



"Ha—look—and you said it would never last!"

The trouble with our foreign relations—they are living beyond our means.—Harold S. May, The Florence (Ala.) Herald.

Help Wanted Female

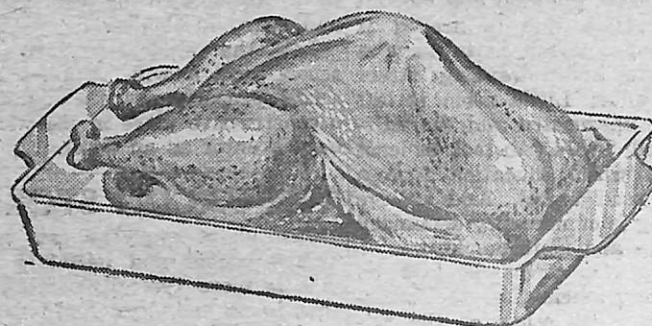
Chambermaid and General Cleaning. Apply in person before 10 a.m. and between 3 and 4 p.m. any day.

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AGAWAM PUBLIC MARKET

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SWIFT'S PREMIUM
Tendergrown - Whole
CHICKEN

29[¢] lb.

SWIFT'S PREMIUM—BONELESS

CORNER BEEF

lb. 79[¢]

ARMOUR STAR—BABY BEEF

LIVER

lb. 45[¢]

BUY OF THE WEEK

SWEET LIFE—ALL PURPOSE

DETERGENT lge. size 25[¢] Giant 59[¢]

CAMPBELL'S

TOMATO SOUP 4 cans 43[¢]

MOM'S OLD-FASHIONED

COOKIES ALL KINDS 3 16 oz. pkgs. \$1

SWEET LIFE—PINK

SALMON Tall can 59[¢]

FROZEN FOODS

ROMAN—SAVE 10¢

RAVIOLI CHEESE or MEAT 10 oz. pkg. 39[¢]

SWEET LIFE—POTATO—SAVE 45¢

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THE Agawam Independent

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THE INDEPENDENT PUBLISHING CORP.
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HELENA M. McLEAN, Editor
RITA M. MASON, Advertising
BILL CHIBA, Outdoor Editor

Founded in April, 1958—Corporate Officers: Helena M. McLean, President; Rita M. Mason, Treasurer.

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The Agawam Independent assumes no financial responsibility for typographic errors in advertisements but will reprint that part of any incorrect ad plus a statement in its news columns calling attention to that error, in the event the error was the fault of the paper.

Vol. 8. No. 17.

Thursday, August 5, 1965

A Passing Season

The seasons of the year run their course swiftly. No one knows that better than our tens of millions of youngsters. For the summer vacation is already over half gone, and the beginning of the next school year approaches swiftly.

Many, perhaps most, will return to school with a feeling of regret. Summer vacation, with all its sports and many-sided attractions, is fun. It's only human nature to wish it could continue forever. But, for all of the labor-saving progress that has been made, we still live in a world which work and knowledge are essentials. And the advances of science and technology have vastly increased the kind and amount of education that is needed if the young person is to have a successful and rewarding career as an adult. Little room is left for the uneducated and the half-educated. Those who lack at least a high school education face a tough road ahead. And college training is of necessity demanded by more and more employers.

Nowadays, stress is laid on physics, mathematics, the chemical arts, and other of the sciences. But the boy or girl who

learns only a trade or a profession is but half a person. The finished student must have at least a fair working knowledge of literature, the other fine arts, and economics. It is in this last classification that the schools, in too many instances, seem to have failed. Too many graduates leave the halls of ivy with an insufficient understanding of this country's economic system and the system of representative government it supports, which together have protected the individual's liberty and made this nation great and powerful. Lack of understanding of the political and economic heritage by which we live is a most serious weakness in a world torn by conflicting and angry ideologies.

Let the student return to school with a will. And let his school properly prepare him for a constructive place in the world he will enter as an adult.

THE BACON STORY

Just about everyone eats and enjoys bacon, and certainly no dish is more typically American than bacon and eggs. And today's bacon is of peak quality. Moreover, the packers offer it in a variety of forms to suit different tastes and purposes.

A booklet on bacon tips issued by the American Meat Institute provides some interesting and valuable information. For one thing, bacon must have to be good—too much lean may result in a product that lacks typical bacon flavor and texture.

Thin-sliced bacon will run as high as 35 slices to the pound. Regular-sliced averages about 22 slices. The thick-sliced gives up to 18 slices. Bacon is also offered in packages containing ends and pieces, and crumbles and bits. These are suitable for casseroles, salads and various other dishes.

Bacon is more than an appetizing food—it is a highly nutritious one. It is an excellent source of food energy and provides high-grade meat protein, along with vitamin B1 and other valuable nutrients. Thanks to the American meat industry, this country has an abundant supply of fine bacon, and it is offered at prices which are easy on the family budget.



'Back-To-School' Cleaning Specials

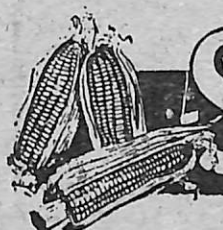
CALL RE 6-6820

Richard's Dry Cleaning Service

— Pickup and Delivery —

707 MAIN STREET
AGAWAM

STAND NOW OPEN



Sweet Corn

Picked Fresh - 3 Times Daily
TOMATOES • PEPPERS
Cucumbers - String Beans - Squash
ALL FRESH VEGETABLES

CHRISTOPHER'S FARM PRODUCE

— "THE CORN KING" —

170 MEADOW STREET

AGAWAM

Vandalism on State Highways Very Costly To Taxpayers

Vandalism—a spreading disease in the modern society—costs the taxpayers of Massachusetts millions of dollars in broken windows, defaced buildings, or, in a relatively new form, painting on rock ledges along the highways.

Commissioner Francis W. Sargent of the Mass. Department of Public Works reports that the DPW's estimate of the costs of vandalism would come close to a quarter of a million dollars each year.

The breaking of lights, or reflectors on signs of all types, using stop signs or other highway safety signs as targets while hunting, and the "souvenir hunters" who rip signs out by the roots...these are old stuff.

But the highway sign-painters are relatively new, and a special problem.

Time was when soap on windows at Halloween, or chalk on sidewalks and walls was the extent of a youngster's itch for writing. The soap was washed off the next morning, and the chalk disappeared in a short time.

But paint lasts until someone, somehow, manages to scrub it off. And removing a patch of paint—sometimes three or more layers thick, from a rock ledge 20 feet in the air, miles from nowhere, is no simple matter.

It takes a solvent to cut the paint; it takes a material to clean

the rock with after the paint has been dissolved, then it requires special brushes and tools to do the job. And up to now it has been next to impossible to remove the paint with a good, reliable, all-around solvent that could cut any type of paint, and be rinsed with plain water.

So, partly because removal is difficult, the notion of painting on rock ledges was made even more attractive. And it would seem that the higher the ledge and the more inaccessible, the greater the challenge to the vandal.

The DPW puts the ledge-painting vandals into two groups, one is the "John Loves Mary" set, teenagers from 14 to 17 out driving with someone who is just old enough to have a license to drive but not old enough to have any sense.

The other is the older teenager, the brand new college kid smart enough to make college and popular enough to make a greek letter society, but not smart enough to refrain from defacing public property. Of the two groups, the latter is probably the worst offender.

Just a short time ago, DPW crews, working with a new paint solvent that is easy on the hands but rough on paint, removed a particularly blatant eyesore from a Route 128 ledge near the Dedham-Westwood line. On an 8-foot

square white background, the crude artists had painted the crest of a greek letter society, done in black and red.

It took the four-man crew, using wire brushes and scrapers after allowing the solvent to do its work, three hours to remove the blot.

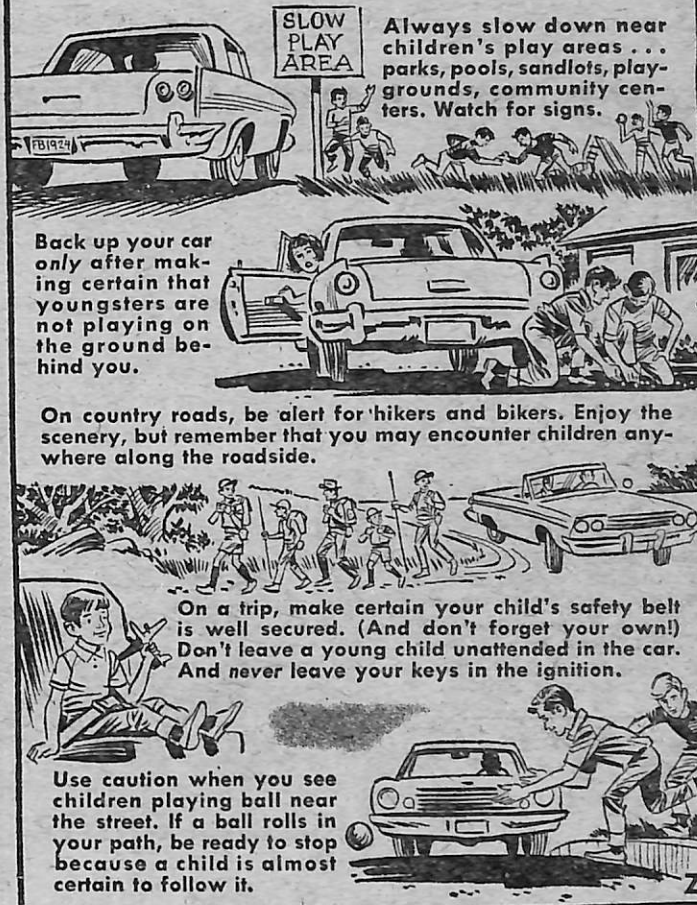
Where bridges have been defaced, it's a relatively simple matter to paint them out with a paint that matches the DPW's original. But rock ledges are much, much different. The DPW has tried a paint cover to match the color of the rock, but this is next to impossible. It has tried sand-blasting, with little success. The new solvent, slow and painful as it may be—and costly to the taxpayer as it most certainly is, seems to be the answer.

All of which adds up, as Commissioner Sargent says, to the younger fry with their vandalism compounding the woes caused by their elder's carelessness in disposing of trash and rubbish along the roadsides, and costing the taxpayers more than a half million dollars in added maintenance costs every year.

Maybe when the college societies grow up a little and decide not to send pledges out to make their marks on highway ledges, things will be better for everybody. Until then, or until paint is outlawed, utopia is too much to hope for.

Watch Out For Children

Now that school's out, youngsters are at play... often in unexpected places. Safety experts at The Travelers Insurance Companies point out that motor vehicle accidents are a leading cause of fatal injury among children from 1 to 14, and they recommend these basic safety tips for summer driving.



STEVENSON STAMP

A commemorative postage stamp will be issued in honor of Adlai E. Stevenson.

President Johnson has asked the Post Office Department to begin work immediately developing a stamp design appropriate to the life and works of the late ambassador to the United Nations.

A four-page illustrated folder telling the complete story behind the 1962 Project Mercury commemorative stamp is again available from the Washington Press of Maplewood, N. J. The recent space flight of Astronauts McDivitt and White has led to renewed interest in Project Mercury, and the Washington Press has received many requests for the folder. To satisfy these requests, they have reprinted it and are offering it free to all collectors.

The Project Mercury stamp was issued without prior notice on February 20, 1962, as soon as John Glenn returned to earth from his orbital flight—the first made by an American. The stamp was developed, engraved, printed and distributed in complete secrecy. The Post Office Department even bought envelopes and prepared first-day covers—all in secret—to be sold to collector when the stamp was released.

The adhesive was immediately popular. Additional printings had to be made to fulfill the demand. More than 3 million first-day covers were prepared by the Post Office Department.

The whole story of the strange and unprecedented activity behind the stamp is told in all its exciting detail in the folder offered by the Washington Press. To receive a copy, just send a postal card to The Washington Press, Maplewood, N. J. 07040, with the request: "Project Mercury Folder, please."

Collectors who enjoy adding unusual items to their albums for additional interest, will appreciate those made available to them by the Philatelic Service Office of the Swiss PTT.

Collectors who have not already done so, are invited to send a request for the Philatelic Service Office's complete, illustrated price list. Address requests to Philatelic Service Office, PTT, 3000 Bern, Switzerland. (All stamps are sold at face value and dispatched in covers of philatelic interest.)



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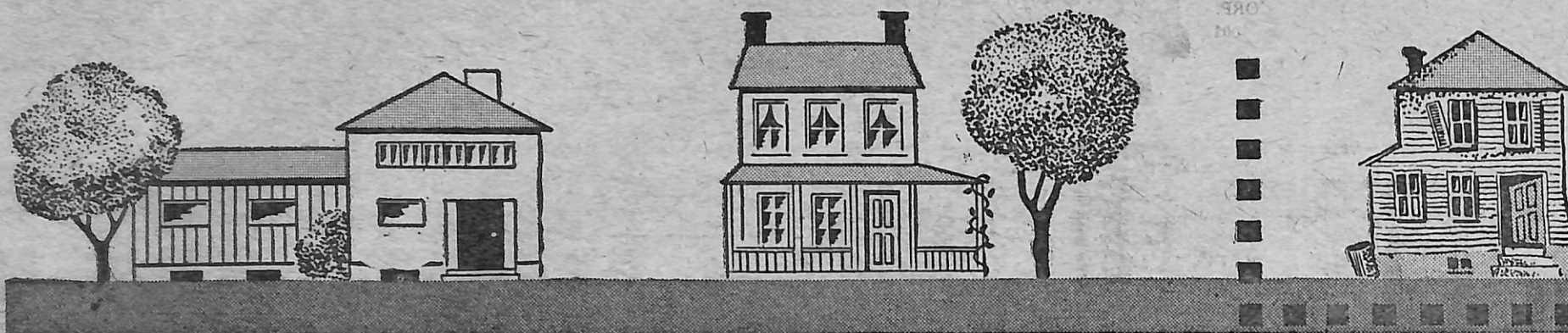
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SPORTSMEN'S CORNER



By Bill Chiba

It is unbelievable the contrast that a person will discover by visiting two sections of the Connecticut River... 40 miles apart. Visit the Connecticut River in the vicinity of Bondi Island and the stench will nauseate you, visit the same river above Turners Falls, Mass., and the beauty of the river and the cleanliness of the water is a pleasure to behold.

Pat Geoffrion, Russ Stetson from Feding Hills, and I decided to try the Connecticut River above Turners Falls Saturday, in search of the large Walleye species that are reported to be caught there quite regularly. We launched the boat at the Franklin Boat Yard Ramp for a buck in Turners Falls. The yard is located just above the dam and the area of river is very clean and dotted with cottages along both banks.

To Route 2

We fished the river from the landing to the French King Bridge on Route 2 where the Millers River enters the Connecticut. Russ used a spinner with a night crawler attached. Pat used a silver spoon, and I laced on a shiner. Russ and I bounced the bottom of the river while Pat fished without a sinker. Russ landed the first walleye... about 12 inches long which is undersize and it was returned to the river. I caught two small walleyes, two calico bass, two pumpkin seeds, and one small-mouth bass. Russ caught several perch, two small mouth bass, and three undersize walleyes. Pat went scoreless the whole nine innings. The sun beat down without mercy and the temperature at noon was unbearable. We fished till 3 in the afternoon and had to get off the river.

What amazed me is the use the river is put to by many people. Water skiers were in abundance

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throughout the day. People were swimming at many of the sandy beaches along the river bank, and we viewed many owners sitting in the shade in front of their cottages. Boats of many different sizes and horsepower passed us going both ways. The courtesy of the boatmen was very impressive. All but one driver slowed down and proceeded at a slow speed until they were past us. This is very different from the actions of the motorboat operators we witnessed on several ponds in the area. Evidently the classes for motorboating held by the Division of Motorboats of Mass. is doing some good.

The Connecticut River is very beautiful, and more people from this area should take advantage of the opportunities the river offers because it is not spoiled by human and industrial waste. I know the hue and cry for a clean river in this area would be heard loud and clear if the majority of the people were to realize what they are being cheated out of. Seeing is believing... using is believing... for an enjoyable Sunday just travel 40 miles up river and see for yourself.

Trying for Record

Bob Shaw, member of the Agawam Sportsmen Club, has just returned from the Ripogenus Dam area in North West section of Maine. Bob was using 4 pound test mono and a light spinning rod on the landlocked salmon. Hoping to catch a record breaker he lost two very good size fish, and landed and released 70 to 75 small salmon the week he spent on the river. Bob says the best time to fish the area is the first week of June. The pulp wood is not flooding the river like it does later on. There is a camping section near the dam. You must travel to Millinocket, Maine, and then take the road to the Katahdin Mountain and Baxter State Park. It is a beautiful place to spend a week or two. You must bring your own camping gear. None is furnished by the Park Dept.

Circum-specks

Birmingham, England

Ernest Deavin was riding in a pedal boat off a beach on the Mediterranean Island of Majorca two months ago. His glasses, in a case, slipped out of his pocket and disappeared in the water.

Mr. Deavin reported recently that an American skin diver found the glasses on a sea bed off the north Italian coast, 500 miles from where they were lost. "The American—and I wish I knew his name—opened the case and found the glasses were from a Birmingham optician," said Mr. Deavin. "He gave the case and glasses to a British tourist. The tourist brought them back and posted them to my local optician. He identified the glasses as mine and sent them to me. They're in perfect condition."

Sweet Corn

It is a known fact that the Aborigines whom Columbus found in this land were using corn long before his time. In the days of the early settlers there was a mixture of red, white, yellow and black kernels on each ear of corn. Careful breeding since then has produced the present-day refinements—giving us corn of all one color.



FROGS ARE FIT FOR FISHIN'

Who ever heard of fishin' for frogs? A lot of folks, that's who. In fact, in many areas across the nation where golden brown frog legs are prime table fare, the fishing approach is more popular than giffin' or grabbin'.

This unusual brand of fishing, note the authorities at Mercury outboards, offers both sport and vittles. The knowing angler who's concerned about catching his supper, is apt to forego his favorite fish for the tastier frogs.

Contrasted with conventional means of taking bullfrogs at night with a flashlight, the fishing method occurs during daylight hours.

Armed with a flyrod or long cane pole, to which is rigged a hook baited with a piece of bright red cloth, the frogger cruises into a quiet cove containing an abundance of floating vegetation.

If not disturbed, frogs can occasionally be seen sitting motionless atop a floating lily pad, just waiting for a flying meal to come within range. Usually, however, an intruder will cause the quarry to slip silently under the surface until just his eyes protrude. With practice, anyone can detect this unnatural hump on the water.

The trick is to flip the red lure within inches of the frog's mouth. With lightning speed his long tongue flicks out and he's part of the evening's main course.

Preparing frogs for the platter is a relatively simple chore, advise the Mercury lads. Merely disjoint and skin the hind legs, cutting off the feet and pulling out the large white cord. Roll them in batter and fry like chicken.

Yummmmm, That's a real delicacy.

Let's Go Boating!



FIBERGLASS BOATS NEED ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

The fiberglass boat is maintenance free! Well, almost. Although fiberglass hulls don't require the many hours of care that wooden craft do, it's still important to perform some routine maintenance.

The same courtesy extended to a new car should be extended to a new boat, say the fiberglass specialists at Evinrude Motors. Evinrude entered the boat market two years ago after more than 50 years in the outboard business. The Milwaukee company now markets seven fiberglass boats.

Before putting a new boat into the water, it should receive a good coat of wax. This acts as a protective and also heightens the brilliance of colored hulls. Periodic wash jobs will preserve this good appearance.

In years to come, the boat should receive an annual application of a fine rubbing compound or automobile cleaner, followed by an application of automotive wax. New products make this job even easier. Dual compounds for both cleaning and waxing are adequate for all but the most difficult jobs. If a boat has missed this annual clean-up, a heavy duty cleaner is in order, followed by a single application of a good paste wax.

Surface scratches and nicks discovered during this maintenance work can also be repaired with a minimum of effort. According to the experts, any scratch less than 0.020 inches deep can be sanded out using medium to fine, wet or dry sandpaper (320 to 600 grit). This will return the scratched area to its original color and produce the same shining surface.

It's not necessary to paint a fiberglass boat. However, anti-fouling paint applied to the hull can cut down on marine growths. When purchasing this paint, be sure to specify anti-fouling paint for a fiberglass boat.

August 14, 1945—At 7 p.m., President Harry S. Truman announced that Japan had accepted the terms of unconditional surrender—and that World War II was over.

UM Medical School Tugged Three Ways

Education can be big business. This explains the tug of war three Bay State communities are waging over the proposed University of Massachusetts medical school.

At stake, if both a school and a hospital are built, are 1,500 full-time local jobs. More would rise out of the \$10-million construction effort by the flow of new faculty and students into the community.

After considering 100 possible sites over a 1½ year stretch, university trustees voted June 11 in favor of industrial Worcester. The vote was a close 12-10 and came only on the fifth ballot.

But the issue was far from

settled. Trustees have been steadily bombarded with protests.

Opponents of the Worcester site say the trustees pleaded with the Legislature for \$30,000 to hire Booz, Allen, and Hamilton, a New York consulting firm. After a thorough survey, the firm recommended Amherst, Springfield, suburban Boston, Worcester, and intown Boston—in that order.

Critics of the Worcester decision point out that the trustees gave no reason for their choice. Opponents now call on them to justify or reconsider.

A true friend is one who thinks you're a good egg even when you're busted.

ADVERTISEMENT

AGAWAM TOWN DUMP

The following is a summation of major facts against the location of the Town Dump in the Agawam Meadows:

1. Page 47 of DOMESTIC REFUSE AND INDUSTRIAL WASTE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL prepared for the Lower Pioneer Valley Regional Planning Commission under contract with the Mass. Dept. of Commerce and Development states: "To use it" (Agawam Meadows) "as a sanitary landfill will require river pollution protective works" (dikes) "similar to those required for the Bondi Island site."

THERE IS NO DIKE ALONG THE PERIPHERY OF THE WESTFIELD RIVER TO PREVENT ITS POLLUTION BY THE AGAWAM DUMP. WEST SPRINGFIELD HAS A DIKE FOR ITS DUMP UNDER SIMILAR TERRAIN CONDITIONS.

2. Camp, Dresser and McKee, Consulting Engineers, Boston, Mass., prepared a study at approximately \$25,000., entitled REPORT ON REFUSE DISPOSAL, Sept. 28, 1964 for the city of Springfield, Mass. Page 5 of this study states: "A site on Bondi Island, westerly of Route 5, has possibilities for use as a sanitary land fill and that a stonefaced dike would need to be constructed to keep flood waters from floating the refuse down the river during flood stages." Page 11 of the supplement to this report states: "We wish to point out that the same precautions would need to be taken at Agawam Meadows as at Bondi Island, as both locations are subject to flooding by the Westfield River."

BONDI ISLAND IS DIRECTLY ACROSS THE WESTFIELD RIVER FROM THE AGAWAM MEADOWS.

3. The above Camp, Dresser and McKee report includes a letter from the Mass. Dept. of Public Health, Oct. 2, 1964, which states: "It is of the opinion that the Bondi's Island site is only marginally acceptable for sanitary land fill operations because of the necessity for diking to prevent flood water encroachment and erosion and because of the potential problem of water leaching through the refuse and ponding behind the dikes, with resultant odor production and insect problems."

U. S. DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, SPRINGFIELD SOUTH, MASS.-CONN., N 4200-W72307.5, 1958 shows that THE TOPOGRAPHY OF THE AGAWAM MEADOWS AND BONDI ISLAND, WEST OF ROUTE 5, IS IDENTICAL. THEREFORE, IT APPEARS LOGICAL THAT THE MASS. DEPT. OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S statement on Bondi's Island is equally applicable to the AGAWAM MEADOWS.

4. The highest peak of the Connecticut River for each month (1933-1964) from Springfield Water Dept. records shows (values in feet above Mean Sea Level):

Jan.	53.3	April	57.8	July	45.8	Oct.	52.3
Feb.	48.3	May	55.7	Aug.	59.9	Nov.	52.3
Mar.	66.4	June	54.6	Sept.	63.5	Dec.	51.7

THE U. S. GEODETIC SURVEY SHOWS THAT HALF THE TERRAIN ON BONDI'S ISLAND AND THE AGAWAM MEADOWS IS BELOW 50 FEET ABOVE MSL AND THE OTHER HALF IS ABOVE 50 BUT LESS THAN 60 FEET ABOVE MSL. WEST SPRINGFIELD'S DIKE IS AT 68.3 FEET ABOVE MSL. U. S. ARMY ENGINEER DIVISION, NEW ENGLAND, LETTER OF APRIL 28, 1965 SHOWS THAT FLOOD CONTROL PROJECTS ON CONNECTICUT RIVER STAGES AT SPRINGFIELD, MASS. FOR FLOODS OF 1949, 1953, 1955 and 1960 WERE REDUCED AN AVERAGE OF 0.8 FEET.

Agawam Town officials were briefed on the problems in April and May 1965. I see no corrective plans or actions.

Numerous ads on this subject were in the Springfield Daily News. The Mass. Dept. of Public Health has been informed of the above facts and does not refute them.

YOU, THE CITIZENS, CAN TURN YOUR BACK, REMAIN COMPLACENT, OR YOU CAN SPEND 5c AND SEND THIS AD TO GOVERNOR JOHN A. VOLPE, STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, MASS.

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— CALL OR SEND FOR FREE BULLETIN —

Here You Can Take —Wooden Nickels!

Wilmont Flat, N.H. "Seventy cents — American money," the waitress told the tourist. "No wooden nickels."

The scene was a roadside restaurant 25 miles northwest of Concord, where merchants are distributing wooden tokens in lieu of five-cent pieces as a gimmick connected with the city's 200th anniversary celebration.

The project, which hit a legal snag at first, now is booming again, and the nickels are reportedly getting scarce.

Meanwhile, tourists passing through Concord are apparently trying to unload the nickels in other communities. Or, in some cases, collectors are seeking more of them.

It all started July 12, when

the bicentennial committee distributed \$2,750 in wooden nickels — 55,000 of them — to participating merchants. They were instructed to offer the tokens as change. Consumers could then use them for purchases at other participating stores, keep them for souvenirs, or redeem them for five cents cash.

Warning Given

Three days later, the Treasury Department became aware of what was going on and warned that use of the wooden tokens as legal tender was illegal.

The secret service and the Justice Department launched an investigation.

The bicentennial committee, while questioning the Treasury's interpretation of the law, warned merchants not to accept any wooden nickels in payment for goods or services.

As news began to spread that Concord's funny money had been questioned, several of the four varieties of nickels began to become scarce.

"People know this is a challenged nickel, and it will be a collector's item," said Dudley Remus, business manager for the bicentennial.

Plywood Tokens

The plywood tokens are printed with a design on one side of a Concord-built stagecoach — the kind used in opening the West 100 years ago — and the words "Wooden nickel — Concord bicentennial" on the other side. There are four different designs on the reverse sides; the New Hampshire Capitol, a figure of a bearded man, a woman in old-fashioned dress, and a representation of the Old Man of the Mountain.

Concord merchants reported they were exhausting their supplies, with more than three weeks to go before the official termination of the project.

Apparently they were filtering out into neighboring communities, where they were getting a cold reception.

Said the waitress in Wilmont Flat: "The day I take wooden money I'll close the door."

Sorry, No Pearl

Lafayette, La. A Lafayette family was deep into watermelon eating when one of the youngsters discovered a marble in the red meat.

Mrs. C. J. Guilbeau said she bought the melon recently at a local supermarket.

Dr. H. K. Riley, University of Southwestern Louisiana horticulturist, said it is possible the marble lodged in the blossom and then was enveloped when the melon matured.

The Old Timer



"Curves can often add up to triangles."

Waste Collections

ROUTE 5

Friday, Aug. 6 — Alexander, Ave., Barry, Belmont Ave., Briarcliffe Dr., Bristol Dr., Carol Ave., Churchill Ave., Hamilton Cir., New York Ave., North St. Ext., North West, North Westfield, Overlook Dr., Parkview Dr., Pine, Pleasant Dr., Richmond Ave., Roosevelt Ave., South West, South Westfield, Southwick, Sunset Ter. and Thalia Dr.

ROUTE 6

Monday, Aug. 9 — DePalma, Doane Ave., Edgewater Rd., Franklin St. Ext., Garden, Gunn-Gerry Ln., Memorial Dr., Mountaintown, Phil, Poplar, Porter Dr., Shoemaker Ln., Silver, Silver Lake Dr., Suffield and Vadenais St.

ROUTE 7

Tuesday, Aug. 10 — Althea Dr., Anthony, Belle, Centre, Clematis Dr., Colonial Ave., Cooper, Elsie, Fairview, Federal Ave., Federal, Federal St. Ext., Harvey Johnson Dr., Karen Dr., Ley, Poinsetta, Potomac Pl., Prince Ln., Reed, Samuel, Senator Ave., Stanley Pl., Valentine, Valentine St. Ext., Vernon, Virginia, Washington, Westford Cir. and Woodside Dr.

ROUTE 8

Wednesday, Aug. 11 — Adams, Birchill Rd., Carr Ave., Cosgrove Ave., Elm, Emerson, Haskell, Henshaw Ave., Kanawa Ave., Lealand Ave., Main, Mardale Ave., Nile Ave., Oxford, Parker, Perry Ln., Raymond Cir., Ridge Ave., Riverside Ave., Riverview Ave., Ruskin Ave., South Park Ter., Stewart Ln., Sunnyslope Ave., Thurlmere Ave., Veranda Ave., Woodcliffe Ave. and Wright St.

ROUTE 9

Thursday, Aug. 12 — Albert, Alhambra Cir., Barney, Central, Corey, Editha Ave., Edward, Elbert Rd., Ellison Ave., Frank, Hunt, James Ave., John, Joseph, Kirkland, Liberty Ave., Maple Ave., Meadow, Meadow Ave., Monroe, Pomeroy, River Rd., School, Seymour Ave., Sterling Rd., Sunrise Ter., Willard Ave. and Wyman Ave.

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Van Johnson Has Starring Role

In "Bye Bye Birdie"

Van Johnson, who made a great hit on the London musical stage when he starred there in "The Music Man" and returned to this country to find himself in demand for musical roles, gets top billing in the Storowton Music Fair, West Springfield, production of "Bye Bye Birdie"



VAN JOHNSON

which opens for a week's run at the tent theatre, August 9.

"Bye Bye Birdie," the first musical directed by Gower Champion for Broadway, is a modern tale inspired by teenagers' fondness for rock 'n' roll music and their adoration of singing idols. In this case the Elvis Presley-type singer is called Conrad Birdie, and the story deals with a publicity stunt his manager, played by Van Johnson, used when the singer is drafted into the Army. Its songs catch the accents and attitudes of young America, and the musical itself

has an infectious air that has captivated audiences.

Some of the better-known tunes written by Charles Strouse with lyrics by Michael Stewart, include "Put On a Happy Face," "How Lovely to Be a Woman," "I've Got a Lot of Livin' to Do," "We Love You, Conrad," "Kids" and "The Telephone Hour."

"Bye Bye Birdie" is directed by Michael Thoma, and Ed Kresley, who plays Conrad Birdie, is choreographer.

Van Johnson, after 25 years as an international star of motion pictures and the stage, has achieved a position in the entertainment world that is most unique.

Next week, August 16-21, Bill Hayes and Allan Jones are co-starred in the Music Fair production of Sigmund Romberg's great operetta, "The Student Prince."

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by Virginia Catchepaugh

Department President's Message

"As my year as your Department President draws swiftly to a close, it is with pride and gratitude that I write this final message to all of you. It has been a memorable year for me with many new experiences, new friendships, and always with the gratifying knowledge of the devoted service that has been given in all parts of our Department by the ever-faithful members of my American Legion Auxiliary.

"I know that in each of our communities, the influence and leadership of the members of the American Legion Auxiliary has been a very real contribution to our American way of life.

"At our annual convention in June, it may well be that reports will show that we have not been able to attain all the goals we hoped for, but I do know that they will show many hours of serious thought, time, and devoted service to all of our programs for

'God and Country,' for which I say, most sincerely, Thank You.

"As we look forward with enthusiasm and confidence to a new year, it is my earnest prayer that we may continue, as we have during these last 45 years, to be a vital source of strength for the good of every community. May just pride in our American Legion Auxiliary lead us ever onward in service to those we are pledged to aid, and may our pride in America always remind us to show our patriotism with—'Visible Americanism,' Elsie Morse, Past Department President.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Auxiliary members who will celebrate their birthdays in August: Mrs. Gladys Reed, Aug. 2; Mrs. Lucille McManus, the 15th; Mrs. Julia Moore, the 27th; and Mrs. Virginia Catchepaugh, the 28th. Mr. and Mrs. Ed Hottin had an anniversary on the 3rd and Mr. and Mrs. Leigh Catchepaugh, the 21st.

Add Water — And Eat!

Natick, Mass.

Can you boil water?

Then you may be the gourmet cook of the future. (Of course, those who burn the pan when they're boiling water—well, even the future can't help that!)

If your steak or potatoes or strawberries aren't irradiated, they'll probably be freeze-dried or dehydrated by some other method. And the directions on the package will read something like this: Add water, and wait—anywhere from 0 seconds to about 15 minutes.

Fresh fruit and vegetable stands may never go out of style. And appliance manufacturers aren't ready to quit making refrigerators or freezers. (Freeze-dried foods don't require refrigeration.) But the future picture shows that freeze-dried foods and other dehydrates are bright and tasty prospects on the kitchen horizon.

While cooks may be familiar with instant potatoes, powdered milk, dried apricots, and other dehydrates, freeze-dried steaks or strawberries may be strangers.

Here the astronauts are one up on us. They've eaten freeze-dried meals in space on all of their recent flights.

Walking through the huge freeze-drying section of the Food Division in the United States Army Laboratories, where all food research for the armed forces is carried on, one becomes involved in a guessing game—which foods are freeze-dried and which aren't?

The only way to tell is by touch. Freeze-drying doesn't change the shape or the appearance of food at all—a freeze-dried strawberry, potato patty, or fish fillet looks exactly like its fresh counterpart.

However, one touch tells the story—and promises us lighter

TODAY'S AGRI-FACT

Fresh cabbage loses moisture easily and tends to wilt at room temperature, Clemson (S. C.) College food experts point out. Newly received cabbage should be cleaned of withered leaves, washed, drained, and then placed in a closed bag or plastic container and stored in the refrigerator. Cook it in an uncovered pan with just enough water to prevent burning. Cook just until tender — overcooking produces strong flavored, strong smelling cabbage with poor color.

grocery bags in the future!

Freeze-drying reduces the weight of the food by as much as 50 to 75 percent. Picking up a packet of freeze-dried green peas or shrimp, one has the feeling he must be holding an empty carton. But there are enough green peas to feed a family of four and plenty of shrimp for several hearty salads.

A guide in the army laboratories, wending his way through the array of "instant freezers" and drying chambers, explains that freeze-drying is "really quite simple." It is exactly what it sounds like—freezing and then drying.

Rows of potato patties are lined up waiting for their turn in the instant freezers. Here they will be frozen just as one might freeze ice in an ordinary refrigerator, except it is done almost instantaneously.

From freezers, the patties go into a drying chamber. In the chamber ice is removed from them directly into a vapor without melting.

After from 4 to 16 hours (depending on the product), the potato patties come out of the dryer as light in weight as a stick of cotton candy—minus the stick. They feel somewhat like Styrofoam or light plastic.

But add water, and after a few minutes' wait—reconstituted potato patties looking, feeling, and tasting like freshly mashed potatoes.

"The water is taken out, but the holes are left," is the way the laboratory explained the process in layman's language. "So, when water is added, it goes back in the same holes it originally came out of, and the appearance never changes."

Already some cereal companies are including freeze-dried fruits in their boxes. One company is even test-marketing cereal with freeze-dried bananas. And bananas are almost impossible to preserve by any other method.

Of course, freeze-dried and other dehydrated foods could be a problem in an unexpected summer shower. Unless packaged tightly, dinner for days to come could suddenly be "cooked" right in a wet grocery bag!

Is Driving Really Relaxing? Read On

Many motorists enjoy driving for relaxation—or do they? The Institute for Safer Living states that during a short drive on an average highway the average driver will be required to do the following: make a number of minor driving decisions and at least one major decision; take anywhere from 25 to 125 muscular actions per minute; take evasive action to avoid one or more hazardous situations; correct one or more driving errors; and make up to a hundred or more visual observations per minute requiring eye movement.

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"It is a recommendation of this report, stated in the letter of transmittal, that a refuse disposal facility consisting of an incinerator plant be constructed on Bondi Island. It is also recommended that the major city, in this case Springfield, construct and operate the incinerator plant. The participating communities (such as West Springfield and Agawam) would pay an annual charge for a share of the capital costs and a charge for the actual tonnage handled."

This recommendation is qualified by many reasons.

The people of Agawam, can again, be misled if major facts are disregarded and subdued. This problem must be solved by a research that is strictly aimed to benefit the town and no political faction or individuals.

I say join forces with Springfield or West Springfield, as a community project, on Bondi's Island. One reason is less political handypanky.

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